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Action

Credentialing and Certificated Assignments Committee

Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 80001 Pertaining to Definitions and Terms

Executive Summary: Commission staff is presenting proposed amendments to the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 80001, pertaining to Definition and Terms.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Commission approve the amendments to the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 80001 for the purpose of beginning the rulemaking file for submission to the Office of Administrative Law and scheduling a public hearing.

Presenter: Terri H. Fesperman, Consultant, Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division

Strategic Plan Goal: 1

Promote educational excellence through the preparation and certification of professional educators

- ◆ Sustain high quality standards for the preparation of professional educators

March 2007

Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 80001 Pertaining to Definitions and Terms

Introduction

At the February 2007 Commission meeting staff presented proposed amendments to Title 5 Section 80001 pertaining to Definitions and Terms. Staff is presenting these amendments for Commission approval.

Background

Title 5 Section 80001 contains terms and definitions used by the Commission. The proposed changes update several outdated subsections. The main change is to amend subsection (e) concerning the credentials issued by the Commission.

Phase 1 of the Teacher Credentialing Service Improvement Project (TCSIP) was launched in October 2001, allowing teachers and administrators to view the status of applications online and provide public access to teachers' credentials online. This feature has proven to be very popular with several thousand hits per day on the website.

In February 2005, the Commission implemented the Credential Automation System Enterprise (CASE). This system replaced the prior database system and collects and stores all of the information related to the Commission's mandated credentialing functions. With the implementation of CASE, all credential and application history is stored in one database and can be viewed online via the secure lookup web. On the official documents is the information provided on the Commission's online lookup page. The online display includes the document number, issuance date, and the recommending institution as applicable.

The next technology efficiency is scheduled to take place in January 2008 when the Commission will no longer print credential documents. The Commission will only post official documents online and will no longer print and provide a paper copy of the document. Credentials will be only available online to view and print by the credential holder.

Local employing agencies must keep records of appropriate certification for all individuals serving in a position that requires certification. Education Code section 44430 requires individuals to register their documents with their employing agency. County offices receive a download of credential information from the Commission for applicants who have noted a county of employment on their application. For all other certificated staff, the employing agency must obtain verification of certification held by their employees. Using the online system instead of contacting the Commission by telephone or email would expedite the timeline for the employer to receive the appropriate information.

There has been reluctance on the part of some employing agencies to use the credential information on the Commission's website as an official record of documents held. In subsection (e), staff is proposing to add language that the Commission's online lookup is an official record for credentials in addition to the paper format of the document.

Proposed Amendments to Regulations

80001(c) The proposed change is to use the term "Chair" instead of "Chairman".

80001(d) The definition of the Commission is no longer found in Education Code section 44203(a) so the reference is deleted.

80001(e) Staff is proposing the addition of wording to make clear that the Commission's website is the official record of credentials issued in addition to the paper format of the document.

80001(f) Since the definition of degree is no longer found in subdivision (a) of Education Code section 44259 but may be found in subdivision (b)(1), the reference has been changed.

80001(h) The Education Code section cited in this subsection no longer refers to the position as Executive Secretary. The change is to reflect the appropriate term.

80001(j) The proposed change is to use the term "Vice-Chair" instead of "Vice-Chairman".

Next Steps

The regulations will appear next at a public hearing following the required 45-day response period.

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 5. EDUCATION DIVISION 8. COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

§80001. Definitions and Terms.

For purposes of Part VIII:

- (a) "Applicant" means any applicant for a credential issued by the Commission.
- (b) "Application for a credential" includes an application for a credential, an application for a renewal of a credential, an application to add new authorizations to an existing credential, or a request to take any special action in relation to the issuance of a credential.
- (c) "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Commission pursuant to Education Code Section 44218.

- (d) "Commission" means the Commission on Teacher Credentialing as ~~defined in Education Code Section 44203(a) and as constituted under~~ established pursuant to Education Code Section 44210.
- (e) "Credential" means any credential, life diploma, permit, certificate, waiver, or document issued by, or under the jurisdiction of, the Commission which entitles the holder ~~thereof~~ to perform services for which certification qualifications are required. The official record of a credential includes any credential in a paper or electronic format, including, but not limited to, information obtained from the Commission's official website.
- (f) "Degree" means a baccalaureate or higher degree as specified in Education Code Section 44259~~(a)~~(b)(1) earned through an approved college or university, regardless of its title, when the degree program contains no less subject matter preparation than a similar degree in a subject field other than professional education in the same institution.
- (g) "Denial" includes the denial of any portion of an application for a credential, even though the requested credential is issued or renewed.
- (h) "Executive ~~Secretary~~ Director" means the Executive ~~Secretary~~ Director to the Commission pursuant to Education Code Section 44220.
- (i) "Issuance" means the granting of a credential based upon the application for or renewal of that credential.
- (j) "Vice-Chair~~man~~" means the Vice-Chair~~man~~ to of the Commission.
- (k) "Professional" credential means a credential for which all statutory and regulatory requirements have been met, excluding credentials issued on partial, preliminary, or emergency bases. A "clear" credential means a professional credential as herein defined.
- (l) "Signature" or "signed" as used in this Chapter may include an electronic signature, as defined in Government Code section 16.5 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Sections 22002 and 22005 or under any applicable state or federal law.
- (m) "Submitted" as used in this Chapter includes any documentation required by the Commission that is delivered in-person, via a delivery service or electronically.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225, Education Code. Reference: Sections 44252, 44330, 44332.5, and 44267.5, Education Code.